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EXAMINER

ZHEN, LI B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2126

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DATE MAILED: 04/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/884,400

Applicant(s)

CHENG ET AL.

Examiner

Li B. Zhen

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2004.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 29 are pending in the application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 15, 22 and 25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 11 – 13, 15, 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication NO. US 2002/0099786 to Chun.**

5. As to claim 1, Chun teaches obtaining exclusive use of a system event log [the alarm management processor 220 sets the listener tables 250 to 253 to a lock mode so that the alarm managers 260 to 263 cannot access the listener tables 250 to 253 during recording the alarm information; paragraph (0044), p. 3 – 4] in a host system [alarm

management host computer 100, Fig. 1; paragraph (0028), p. 3] from a set of system management applications [a plurality of alarm managers 260 to 263 that run in an application program of the alarm management processor 220 in order to support distributed alarm management of plural operators, paragraph (0034), p. 4; alarm management processor 220 operates according to an alarm management application program being a daemon application program, paragraph (0032), p. 4];

obtaining an identifier [alarm identifier] corresponding to an unprocessed [uncleared alarm] record [alarm management processor 220...assigns an unused alarm identifier to the alarm information, and stores the alarm information in the uncleared alarm table 243...In step S150, the alarm management processor 220 stores the alarm information in the listener tables 250 to 253; paragraphs (0041) and (0042), p. 4]; and

determining the next unprocessed record [alarm managers 260 to 263 read the alarm information, display or print the alarm information, and clear or remove the alarm information from the listener tables 250 to 253 to prevent re-reading of the alarm information; paragraph (0045), p. 5].

6. As to claim 4, Chun teaches requesting exclusive use of the system event log [step S12, alarm manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, Fig. 5; paragraph (0054), p. 5], and receiving an acknowledgement that exclusive use is granted [sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode].

7. As to claims 6 and 7, Chun teaches issuing a lock request to a lock agent application [the alarm management processor 220 sets the listener tables 250 to 253 to a lock mode so that the alarm managers 260 to 263 cannot access the listener tables 250 to 253 during recording the alarm information; paragraph (0044), p. 3 – 4] that runs on the host system [alarm management host computer 100, Fig. 1; paragraph (0028), p. 3].

8. As to claim 11, Chun teaches processing the unprocessed record [reads the alarm information from listener table #0001] and releasing exclusive use of the system event log [manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, and then releases it from the lock mode; paragraph (0054), p. 5].

9. As to claim 12, Chun teaches determining if there are additional records to process [alarm managers 260 to 263 read the alarm information, display or print the alarm information, and clear or remove the alarm information from the listener tables 250 to 253 to prevent re-reading of the alarm information; paragraph (0045), p. 5].

10. As to claim 13, Chun teaches storing the identifier corresponding to the unprocessed record in non-volatile memory [assigns an unused alarm identifier to the alarm information, and stores the alarm information in the uncleared alarm table 243...In

step S150, the alarm management processor 220 stores the alarm information in the listener tables 250 to 253; paragraphs (0041) and (0042), p. 4].

11. As to claim 15, Chun teaches exclusive use of a system event log [the alarm management processor 220 sets the listener tables 250 to 253 to a lock mode so that the alarm managers 260 to 263 cannot access the listener tables 250 to 253 during recording the alarm information; paragraph (0044), p. 3 – 4];

receiving a request for the exclusive use of a system event log in a host system from a set [a plurality of alarm managers 260 to 263 that run in an application program of the alarm management processor 220 in order to support distributed alarm management of plural operators, paragraph (0034), p. 4; alarm management processor 220 operates according to an alarm management application program being a daemon application program, paragraph (0032), p. 4] of system management applications [step S12, alarm manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, Fig. 5; paragraph (0054), p. 5];

granting exclusive use of the system event log to the requesting system management application if no other system management application maintains a lock on the system event log [manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, and then releases it from the lock mode; paragraph (0054), p. 5]; and

denying use of the system event log to the requesting system management application if another application maintains a lock on the system event log [reason for

alarm manager #0001 to set listener table #0001 to the lock mode is to prevent the alarm management processor 220 from accessing listener table #0001 during reading the alarm information; paragraph (0054), p. 5].

12. As to claim 17, Chun teaches determining if exclusive use of the system event log is locked by another application [reason for the alarm management processor to set listener table #0001 to the lock mode is to prevent alarm manager #0001 corresponding to listener table #0001 from accessing listener table #0001 during recording of the alarm information; paragraph (0054), p. 5].

13. As to claim 21, Chun teaches receiving a request to release the lock on the exclusive use of the system event log in the host system from a system management application [If the recording operation is completed, the alarm management processor 220 releases the listener tables 250 to 253 from the lock mode to allow the alarm managers 260 to 263 to access the listener tables 250 to 253; paragraph (0044), p. 4 - 5], and releasing the lock on the exclusive use of the system event log [alarm management processor 220 releases the listener tables 250 to 253 from the lock mode].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

14. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. **Claims 2, 3, 5, 8 – 10, 14, 16, 18 – 20 and 22 – 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chun in view of “Intelligent Platform Management Interface Specification v1.0” (p. 1 – 13, 23, 69 and 93 – 103; hereinafter “IPMI1.0”).**

16. The IPMI1.0 reference was cited in the previous office action.

17. As to claim 2, Chun teaches alarm management for a network management system [paragraph (0008), p. 1], but does not specifically teach an Intelligent Platform Management Interface system event log.

However, IPMI1.0 teaches the Intelligent Platform Management Interface architecture [Section 1.5.1, p. 4] and a system event log [Section 1.5.6, p. 7 and Section 18, p. 93].

18. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teaching of the Intelligent Platform Management Interface and system event log as taught by IPMI1.0 to the invention of Chun because Intelligent Platform Management allows inventory, monitoring, logging, and recovery control functions to be available independent of the main processors, BIOS, and operating system [Section 1.5.1, 1st paragraph, p. 4 of IPMI1.0].

19. As to claim 3, Chun as modified teaches the unprocessed record [Next SEL Record ID; p. 97, Section 18.5 of IPMI1.0] is a record of an IPMI event [SEL Event Records; p. 101, Sections 19 and 19.1 of IPMI1.0].
20. As to claim 5, Chun as modified teaches accessing the Intelligent Platform Management Interface Last Software Process Event ID storage location [GET LAST ENTRY, Table 18-5; p. 97, Section 18.5 of IPMI1.0].
21. As to claims 8 – 10, Chun as modified teaches the one or more system management applications include out-of-band system management applications [out-of-band applications; p. 69, Section 13.6; p. 103, Section 20 of IPMI1.0] and in-band system management applications [in-band access to the IPMI management information; p. 4, Section 1.5.2; p. 5, Fig. 1-1 of IPMI1.0].
22. As to claim 14, Chun as modified teaches storing the identifier corresponding to the unprocessed record in the Intelligent Platform Management Interface Last Software Process Event ID storage location [records are added on after the last record in the SEL; p. 97, Section 18.6 of IPMI1.0].
23. As to claims 16 and 18 – 20, these are rejected for the same reasons as claims 2 and 8 – 10 above.

24. As to claim 22, Chun as modified teaches an Intelligent Platform Management Interface [p. 1, Section 1. Introduction; p. 9, Section 1.5.15 of IPMI1.0], one [step S12, alarm manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, Fig. 5; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun] of a set of system management applications [a plurality of alarm managers 260 to 263 that run in an application program of the alarm management processor 220 in order to support distributed alarm management of plural operators, paragraph (0034), p. 4; alarm management processor 220 operates according to an alarm management application program being a daemon application program, paragraph (0032), p. 4 of Chun] requesting exclusive use of the IPMI system event log [System Management Software can access the System Event log; p. 23, Section 5.5; p. 93, Section 18 of IPMI1.0];

requesting an unprocessed system event [Next SEL Record ID; p. 97, Section 18.5 of IPMI1.0] exclusive use of the system event log was obtained [step S12, alarm manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, Fig. 5; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun]; and

releasing exclusive [releases it from the lock mode; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun] use of the IPMI system event log [Section 1.5.6, p. 7 and Section 18, p. 93 of IPMI1.0]

25. As to claim 23, Chun as modified teaches the IPMI system event log [SEL Event Records; p. 101, Sections 19 and 19.1 of IPMI1.0] is on a server unit configured to run IPMI [p. 1, Section 1; p. 9, Section 1.5.15 of IPMI1.0].

26. As to claim 24, this is rejected for the same reasons as claim 11 above.

27. As to claim 25, Chun as modified teaches an Intelligent Platform Management Interface [p. 1, Section 1. Introduction; p. 9, Section 1.5.15 of IPMI1.0], synchronize exclusive access [alarm manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun] to a system event log [System Management Software can access the System Event log; p. 23, Section 5.5; p. 93, Section 18 of IPMI1.0] by a system management application [step S12, alarm manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, Fig. 5; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun] from one of a set of system management applications [a plurality of alarm managers 260 to 263 that run in an application program of the alarm management processor 220 in order to support distributed alarm management of plural operators, paragraph (0034), p. 4; alarm management processor 220 operates according to an alarm management application program being a daemon application program, paragraph (0032), p. 4 of Chun]; and

access the system event log [step S12, alarm manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, Fig. 5; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun] if exclusive access to the system event log is granted [reason for alarm manager #0001 to set listener table #0001 to the lock mode is to prevent the alarm management processor 220 from accessing listener table #0001 during reading the alarm information; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun].

28. As to claim 26, this is rejected for the same reasons as claim 4 above.

29. As to claim 27, Chun as modified teaches retrieving a last processed event before retrieving a next unprocessed event [alarm managers 260 to 263 read the alarm information, display or print the alarm information, and clear or remove the alarm information from the listener tables 250 to 253 to prevent re-reading of the alarm information; paragraph (0045), p. 5 of Chun].

30. As to claim 28, Chun as modified teaches revoke the exclusive [releases it from lock mode] use of the system event log [manager #0001 sets listener table #0001 to the lock mode, reads the alarm information from listener table #0001, and then releases it from the lock mode; paragraph (0054), p. 5 of Chun].

31. As to claim 29, this is rejected for the same reasons as claim 5 above.

Conclusion

32. Applicant's amendment to independent claims 1, 15, 22 and 25 include the new limitation "a set of system management applications" necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


33. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Li B. Zhen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3406. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Li B. Zhen
Examiner
Art Unit 2126

lbz
April 14, 2004


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